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**Scottish Borders Local Action Group (LAG)
Community Led Local Development Fund 24/25**

Thursday 5th September 2024

 TEAMS Online 14:00-17:00

**NOTE OF MEETING**

 **Present:**

Hans Waltl, Chair of the LAG

Pip Tabor, Southern Uplands Partnership (PT)

Miriam Adcock, Zero Waste Scotland (MA)

Fiona Benton, Borders Community Action (FB)

Hazel Smith, Re-Tweed (HS)

Lesley Forsyth, Scottish Borders Council (Economic Development) (LF)

Trevor Jackson, Charlesfield Farms / Scottish Borders Chamber of Commerce (TJ)

Lianne Drummond, Berwickshire Swap (LD)

**Secretariat:**

Simon Lynch, Scottish Borders Council (Economic Development) (SL)

Emma Hamilton, Scottish Borders Council (Economic Development) (EH)

Nesta Todd, Scottish Borders Council (Economic Development) (NT)

Linda Kerr, Scottish Borders Council (Economic Development) (LK)

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|  |  | **Action** |
| **1.0** | **Welcome**Meeting quorate with 7 members present initially. LD arrived late but before the decision-making section.Also, a welcome to new panel member, Trevor Jackson, representing both Charlesfield Farms and Scottish Borders Chamber of Commerce (SBCoC). Trevor is the new Chair of the Chamber of Commerce and is passionate about driving the economy of the Scottish Borders and renewables.  |  |
| **2.0** | **Apologies**Charles Dundas, Borders Forest TrustJan Pringle, South of Scotland EnterpriseMargaret Simpson, Scottish Borders Social Enterprise Chamber |  |
| **3.0** | **CLLD Update** A brief update on the current position of the CLLD funding was provided. From the budget statement released, it was noted that SG have confirmed the reduction in CLLD funding by £800k. More specifically, this relates to the pot of money for Collaboration projects. Regarding Tranche 2 funding, SG have noted that there is likely to be some funding awarded, though the SG Rural team are less confident on the amount. They have suggested that the sum will be significantly less than previously suggested. Due to changes in the land use/agricultural legislation and other internal Govt changes planned to take longer than initially anticipated, it is anticipated that CLLD funding will potentially continue to 2030.*LD joined meeting at this point* |  |
| **4.0** | **Conflict of Interest**Hazel Smith, Re-Tweed application. This project was considered last after Hazel had left the Team meeting. |  |
| **5.0** | **Minutes** The new scoring system (agreed 23rd April 2024) was implemented at this meeting. LAG members were asked to flag up projects that they had given Amber or Red to and these were postponed for discussion until after the Green status projects were resolved.Green Status ProjectsThe Chair stated these projects would be deemed to have automatically passed unless LAG members wished to discuss them. No LAG member wished to discuss these projects, and the following were unanimously approved: 1. Drivewise Borders – GREEN
2. Peeblesshire Foodbank – GREEN
3. Sustainable West Linton and District – GREEN
4. Tweeddale Youth Action - GREEN

The following projects were discussed with the group and scored: 1. Luckenbooth Café – RED
2. Outside the Box – RED
3. ReTweed - GREEN
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| **6.0** | **AOB** A reminder was given that applications reviewed through the Expression of Interest (EOI) system by SBC (Communities and External Funding team staff) and SoSE. So, to keep this in mind when reviewing the Growing the Economy applications that SoSE would already be aware of the project and had decided at EoI stage not to ask to work with the project organisation. Further clarification was requested on what is expected from the Growing the Economy applications, i.e., what will achieve a ‘green’ status. Would like further guidance so that they can give guidance. In response, the following criteria: * Needs to look at economic development
* Strong, coherent, business case
* Longevity
* Degree of realism in funding ask

It was noted that the group are looking to increase the diversity of the panel to create a coherent cross section of the Scottish Borders Communities. Therefore, if anyone is aware of anyone would like to join the panel, to please get in touch.  |  |
| **7.0** | **Meeting Closes – 14:46pm**  |  |